

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2015

ATTENDEES: Ron Kral, President
Ann Atcheson, Treasurer
Donna Hickling, Secretary
Francesca Mazarella, Board Member
Kevin O'Brien, Board Member
Joe Hertz, Board Member
Susan Miskura, Board Member
Lucy McCoy, Newsletter Editor
Livingston Johnson, Unit Game Director
David Lindley, Email Manager
Shiang Chen, NVBA Member

Unable to attend: Leo Cardillo, Jim Gerdin

CALL TO ORDER: The President called the July meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 11:30 a.m. on July 19, 2015 at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, VA.

Secretary's Report

The Board reviewed the minutes from the July Board of Directors' meeting which, upon the motion of Francesca and seconded by Kevin, were approved unanimously with suggested changes. The Board also agreed to incorporate information from Margot Hennings about the upcoming NABC into future minutes as either a note or an addendum, depending on length. Donna will email Margot to let her know.

The Board reviewed the open action items from the last meeting. The results of that review are included in the updated action item list at the end of the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

The Board received the financial statements for June from Ann, which detailed profit and loss since the beginning of the calendar year, set forth budgeted to actual expenditures, and compared the balance sheet for assets and liabilities with that of the prior year. Ann reported that, although we are on track with the budget, both income and expenses are below budget, especially for the sectional tournaments. Ron informed the Board that it appears that rent for the Sectional space will go up approximately \$500 every two years.

Ron moved and Kevin seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted; the Board agreed unanimously.

Other Items of Business

1. Longest Day Recap

The Longest Day charity event for Alzheimers at Beth El on June 21 was a success with 81 tables; however, start of the 3:00 session was delayed, causing some members to leave without playing in it. More time needs to be allocated for set-up between sessions.

NVBA contributed approximately \$380 for the table fees. We also need to lobby the local Alzheimer's association to permit us to hold the event on a weekend because the longest day will fall on a Tuesday next year.

2. Life Master/Non-Life Master (LM/NLM) Recap

The LM/NLM game was a success with 50 tables. Matching life masters with non-life masters went unusually well, although there were some glitches at the last minute with unexpected additions and no shows. Ron will turn this event over to Joe and Kevin; he is in the process of writing supporting procedures.

3. Reston Regional Recap

Attendance increased over 200 tables compared to the last Reston Regional tournament. On Monday, the attendance doubled from approximately 70 tables to approximately 140. The increased attendance may be because the event did not conflict with the July 4th holiday as previous tournaments have. There also may be an increase in the number of new players. The huge Monday turnout was most likely because this year ACBL permitted a full slate of events on the first day of the tournament. The addition of the two-session gold-point Open Pairs, Gold Rush, and Knock-outs on Monday may have attracted more players hoping to win gold points. The unexpected number of participants created problems with set-up, especially on Monday.

We rented a dealing machine to produce the boards from the Washington Bridge League for \$200. We also rented Ron's printer to print the hand records, which saved approximately \$200 compared to Staples charges. As a side note, District 6 is looking for someone to store and deliver materials to Regional tournaments for a fee.

In addition, several participants commented that they would have liked to have a shuttle from the metro to the event.

I/N Survey: Susan discussed the I/N survey administered at the Regional. Ron, Susan, Francesca, and Joe formed the committee to develop, administer, and process the survey. Ron drafted the survey and submitted it to Margot Hennings, Amanda Carter, and Shawn Stringer for comment. It was administered at the end of registration for I/N games. Of the 318 registrants, 254 responded to the survey. Respondents were asked, among other things, how many master points they have, how many National, Regional, and Sectional tournaments they have attended, and how they heard about the Reston tournament. A preliminary look at the results found that having friends and regular partners with whom to play was an important factor in attendance, in addition to a close location. It also confirmed that tournament staff is not an issue.

In addition to the survey, suggestions from the suggestion box in the I/N section asked for more directors, more clocks showing the status of the round, and a tighter rein on slow play.

Leftover prizes were given to participants who had not previously attended the tournament.

Learn Bridge in a Day (LBIAD): This event was also a success, exceeding its goal of 40 students by 45, for a total of approximately 85 students. As a result, there were two Table Monitors who had to handle more than one table. The course is not intended to provide the skills necessary to play in a 199er game, so every attempt was made to funnel the fledgling bridge players into beginner classes.

4. Clubs Update/Report

The Board discussed NVBA's interaction with and support of the club managers. Susan, working with Kevin, is the NVBA liaison. Currently contact is limited, although in the past, we have held a club managers' breakfast at the Sectional. We discussed holding this breakfast at the September Sectional. The agenda and objectives need to be clearly defined. We need to define what NVBA can do for the club managers and what we would like them to do for NVBA.

Kevin has established a program to order supplies for the club managers which saves them the shipping costs.

5. NAP Qualifier schedule

The Board also discussed the need for access to the list of clubs holding North American Pairs (NAP) qualifying games. Ron will post a link on the NVBA website to the District 6 list of upcoming NAP and GNT qualifiers.

The NVBA NAP/GNT/Club Liaison is encouraged to reach out to club owners/directors to find out when they have qualifiers scheduled in the upcoming months and to provide that information to Barb Doran as the District 6 NAP Coordinator and to Lynn Jones, the District 6 GNT Coordinator, during the GNT qualifying period which begins in September.

6. NVBA Mailings

The Board reviewed the revised logo and text style that David developed for NVBA emailings. The Board discussed the desirability of sending out a membership email on a periodic basis, perhaps once every two weeks. David will put together a laundry list of items to be included in this periodic email. The Board agreed that more frequent emails may be desirable to publicize events such as the Sectionals, the holiday party, or the LM/NLM game. Emails for these events should be sent out about three weeks before the event.

7. Goodwill Nominees

NVBA is allowed two Goodwill nominees per year. Because we have several good candidates and did not nominate anyone last year, Ron would like us to be able nominate four this year. The awards will not be made until the Cambridge regional, so Ron will delay presenting our nominees until he can talk to David Rodney at the Hunt Valley Regional about the possibility of four nominees.

8. Social Media

NVBA has Facebook, Twitter, and Google Plus accounts. Ron will identify the Google Plus password. Joe and Ron have access to the Facebook account.

9. Dedicated Building

Francesca presented a summary of her research into the dedicated buildings operated by the Vanderbilt Bridge Center (VBC) and the Santa Fe Bridge Club.

VBC bought the first floor of a building with \$300,000 in savings and \$700,000 raised from donors. It received a 501c3 status from the IRS which makes contributions to the club tax deductible. Its building is large enough to hold the club's Sectional tournaments. It rents out part of the floor to a realtor.

The Santa Fe Bridge Club bought land and built its own building using donations from members, including a single large donor for whom the building is named. Its tax status is 501c7. The Club needs to rent a larger space for its Sectional tournaments.

Francesca will develop a list of questions that NVBA needs to address if it wants a dedicated building.

9. Unit Game

Kevin is still working on posting 199er lecture materials on the website.

Livingston plans to continue as the head director for the unit game for the foreseeable future.

The Board discussed the NAP semifinals held at the unit game, including whether they should be stratiflighted like the Washington Bridge League NAPs. It was decided to add an NAP qualifier to the Unit game schedule on August 6. Lucy will send Ron a revised schedule to post.

10. New Business

There was no new business. Review of the Policies and Procedures was deferred to a later meeting, due to this meeting's full agenda

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT:

The next NVBA Board meeting will be held at 11:30 am on August 30, 2015 at the Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, VA. NVBA members are invited to attend. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Action Items

Date	Item	Assignee	Status
6/7/2015	Upload current board member information to ACBL	Donna	Completed
6/7/2015	Ensure board meeting minutes availability on NVBA web site	Ron	Completed
6/7/2015	Initiate NVBA audit	Ann, Ron	Audit was completed; no discrepancies were found
6/7/2015	Send letter to members whose certificates were lost	Francesca	The certificates were found and will be distributed
6/7/2015	Draft and distribute Longest Day email blast	Kevin	Completed
6/7/2015	Contact Vanderbilt Bridge Center to discuss dedicated club building	Kevin	Completed; information was distributed to Ron, Leo, and Francesca
6/7/2015	Ask the identified prospect to be the new caddy master	Ron	Completed by Kevin; prospect currently has other priorities
6/7/2015	Check on status of vulnerability inserts and insert them before first Unit Game after Reston Regional	Kevin	Available inserts have been inserted; additional inserts need to be ordered to replace ones that Kevin provided and to complete the last set
6/7/2015	Make some progress on posting 199er lecture materials on the Web site	Kevin	Open
6/9/2015	Print, read, and edit first 10 pages of NVBA Policies and Procedures	All	Discussion of the Policies and Procedures was deferred to a later meeting, due to this meeting's full agenda
7/19/2015	Email Margot Hennings to let her know Board decision on including NABC information in the minutes	Donna	
7/19/2015	Send updated member achievement status to Francesca	Livingston	
7/19/2015	Lobby the local Alzheimer's association for permission to hold the Longest Day on a weekend because the longest day will fall	Kevin	

	on a Tuesday next year		
7/19/2015	Post a link on the NVBA website to the District 6 list of NAPs and GNTs	Ron	
7/19/2015	Put together a laundry list of items to be included in periodic emails to NVBA members	David	
7/19/2015	Talk to David Rodney at the Hunt Valley Regional about the possibility of four Goodwill nominees from NVBA	Ron	
7/19/2015	Identify the Google Plus password	Ron	
7/19/2015	Develop a list of questions that NVBA needs to address if it wants a dedicated building	Francesca	
7/19/2015	Send changes to the NAP semifinal schedule to Ron	Lucy	

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Hickling, Secretary

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